



Memorandum

Date: February 11, 2016

To: The Honorable Tom Leonard (Chair of the House Insurance Committee)
Honorable Tom Cochran (Minority Vice-Chair)
House Insurance Committee Members

From: Kris Nicholoff, CEO/Director, Michigan Osteopathic Association

Re: Michigan Osteopathic Association Support for SB 150 (Medication Synchronization)

On behalf of the Michigan Osteopathic Association (MOA), which represents over 8,000 osteopathic physicians, residents and students, we support passage of SB 150(S-2), which provides for voluntary synchronization of certain medications for chronically ill patients. The bill, that has currently passed the Senate, allows the patient in concert with the physician and pharmacist to synchronize the multiple eligible medications of the patient for refills on the same day each month.

Studies have shown that a lack of adherence to medication by patients is a huge factor in health care costs. One effective mechanism to address that cost driver is by allowing patients to synchronize their medication prescriptions. It conveniently reduces the patients' burden of multiple trips to the local pharmacy each month, resulting in better coordinating of care and reducing potentially costly expenditures, when patients do not adhere to the complicated medication regimens required to treat their chronic illness.

The bill sponsor has adequately addressed initial issues expressed by stakeholders, and given that it is permissive for the patient to synchronize their medications and it is limited to a certain class of medications, this legislative proposal should be enacted into law.

MOA appreciates the Committee's timely review of Senate Bill 150 and urges it to report the bill out for further House action.

Thank you.